

Mendon Cultural Council
MEETING MINUTES
September 27, 2016

Joyce Firth-Chair
Kathleen Murphy-Secretary
Debbie Perro- Publicity

CALL TO ORDER:

- A. The regular meeting of the Mendon Cultural Council was called to order at 7:07PM at the Mendon Senior Center.
- B. The above mentioned members were present.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

- A. Minutes for August 2016 were accepted without changes and will be posted on the Town webpage as soon as possible by Kathleen Murphy.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- A. The Treasurer, Marty Fletcher, was unable to attend this meeting, however there has been no activity on our accounts since the last meeting.
- B. The MCC requires each LCC to close out their fiscal year and calculate it's available funds for the next FY during the months of August-October. With the addition of a new Mendon town accountant during those months, locating necessary information was confusing, therefore our end of year accounting and beginning figures for the new fiscal year are not yet ready. However, the Accountant , Chair and Treasurer are working to have all the necessary accounting in to the MCC by the deadline date of October 15, 2016. Granting dollar figures will be determined and disclosed at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. There were no modifications offered to the MCC/LCC posted Priorities and /or Guidelines that had been distributed to members at the last meeting.

B. 350TH ANNIVERSARY INVOLVEMENT:

- 1. The applicant for Choral Director, Simeon Morrow, will be interviewed on Thursday, September 29, 2016 by Joyce Firth, Wayne Ward and Bill Moffett . The location for the interview is the Taft Library, if space is available.

Joyce Firth attended the 9/26/16 meeting of the Mendon 350th Anniversary Committee to update that committee on the "Mother Mendon Sings" choral concert event we had hoped to sponsor as an anniversary event in March 2017. The primary issue being the inability of the LCC, as a State and Town entity, to use their own funds, raise funds, take in donations, charge admissions and initiate most other forms of raising funds. LCC's are allowed to use 15% of their allotment for self funded projects, however that figure, aprox \$650, falls significantly short of the anticipated amount needed for this program. After much discussion, the 350th Committee has agreed to take over this program as an official 350th sponsored event with financial backing from the Brothers of the Brush. The LCC has agreed to organize the event as a sub-committee, of sorts. As such, the LCC, with approval of the 350th committee, will continue on doing what it had already begun: interview and secure the director and accompanist; secure the venue, and plan and organize the first half of the concert program, and be accountable to the 350th/Brothers with and for that information. Another 350th sub committee will be formed to fill the second half of the concert program. Ideas for this second half were to add a children's chorus, or multiple children's chorus' including the 8 child/grandchildren towns of the original Mendon. Discussion will continue with the LCC and the 350th on this. LCC will put together a more informed financial proposal for the 350th Committee

after the interview for a director has ended and more information is gathered.

C.Dick Ferrucci was notified that the LLC members have chosen not to participate in the Lion's Club Country Fair this year.

D.There were not enough members present to discuss the LCC involvement in the 350th Anniversary parade. This item will be moved to the next agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Changes within the Massachusetts Cultural Council website/application/contact were reviewed and discussed.

1. The deadline for grant applications this year is October 17th, rather than October 15th. All online applications will be accumulated by the MCC and each member will be notified via email that a "panel book" is available to them on our MCC site on November 1st. Any paper applications the Chair receives will be scanned and scanned images will be forwarded to each member. **Any member who has not received the MCC email with panel book information, and/or scanned images from Joyce Firth by NOVEMBER 2nd must contact Joyce Firth immediately.** *All applications must be reviewed and members must be ready to vote on them by the November meeting date.*

B. Conflict of Interest Law-All members were requested to either take the COI test, if they are due, or to just review it.

1. Recently the LCC received an invitation to participate in a basket fundraising event for the Sr. Center whereby the CC members create a basket for donation. After an informal meeting with the Town Administrator, it was determined that participation would be a violation of the COI law. The Chair could not ask members to purchase items for donation.

2.Joyce Firth met with Sr. Center Director and the "Friends of" secretary to inform them that the LCC was unable to participate in this event.

D.Open Meeting Law- Joyce Firth attended the OML meeting on 9/20/16 presented by the Attorney General's Office. Those regulations most relevant to the LCC were discussed. Members were advised not to have CC discussions outside a scheduled meeting. It was determined that the town posted meeting agendas need to be more comprehensive and include ALL "anticipated discussion" elements. In order to accomplish this, the agenda needs to be created closer to the meeting date so that more current/recent topics can be included. Members who have a discussion item to be included on an agenda must get that information to the Chair as soon as possible. Members should look for their agenda in their email about one week prior to the meeting date. "Items not anticipated for discussion" will be on each agenda.

ITEMS NOT ANTICIPATED FOR DISCUSSION:

- A. New meeting space is now available at the old library on the lower level, or the new Taft Library in their small meeting room. It was decided that the old library is most convenient because the police station, where the key is located, is just next door.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Mendon Cultural Council is set for **Tuesday, OCTOBER, 25, 2016 at the old library, if available.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Firth/KM

